

REMARKS

Introductory Comments

Prior to this Amendment, claims 1-26 are pending in this application.

By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1, 5, 11, 12, 14, and 16-18, added new claims 27-33, and amended the specification and abstract.

Objections

Applicants have amended the abstract, specification, and claims 11 and 12 to overcome the objections raised in paragraphs 2-5 of the Office Action. Applicants have also amended claims 14 and 16-18 to correct other typographical errors.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 2

Claim 5 is amended to provide antecedent basis as noted in paragraph 6 of the Office Action.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 103(a)

Narayanaswamy et al. discloses a method for upgrading codes in memory, and teaches discontinuing normal operations and resetting the device in order to perform a boot code upgrade. See Figs. 4a and 4b. See also col. 6, lines 34-38 and col. 7, lines 6-8. Bealkowski et al. discloses a process for recovering from corruption of memory, and also teaches resetting the device in order to reinitialize the system. See Fig. 2, line 67, Fig. 3, steps 76, 78, and 80 and col. 4, lines 25-41. Neither reference discloses, teaches or suggests configuring or reconfiguring a device while the device is still in operation.

In particular, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, does not disclose, teach, or suggest a method for programming a field mounted device including the step of deactivating the first memory area during on-line operation of the device and activating a deactivated second memory area during on-line operation of the device, as further clarified in amended independent claims 1 and 11. Claims 1 and 11, and all dependent claims 2-10 and 12-21, are therefore patentable over the prior art of record.

With regard to independent claim 22, the “coordinating” step is not disclosed, taught or suggested by any of the prior art references of record. Applicants respectfully point out that such “coordinating” step particularly recites the step of “simultaneously executing the first programmable configuration in the first memory area by the computational process during configuration of the second memory area with a modification of the second

programmable configuration.” Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 22, and claims 23-26 depending therefrom, are patentable over the cited art.

New Claims

Applicants believe that new claims 27-33 are patentable over the prior art of record.

Final Comments

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the same be granted. Applicants request that, if necessary, this Amendment be considered a request for an extension of time for a time appropriate for the amendment to be timely filed. Applicants request that any required fees for filing this Amendment be charged to the account of Bose McKinney & Evans LLP, Deposit Account Number 02-3223.

Respectfully submitted,

BOSE McKINNEY & EVANS

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Christine E.M. Orich', written over a horizontal line.

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